

## **WDNR Statement on illegal elk harvest-charges filed**

**SAWYER COUNTY, Wis.** -- The Wis. Department of Natural Resources Bureau of Law Enforcement has issued citations to an authorized state hunter for an alleged illegal shooting of an elk in Sawyer County during the state elk season.

An investigation by state conservation wardens found evidence the bull elk was shot October 15 while the animal was standing on the west side of a town roadway and the hunter was standing on the eastern edge of the same road in the Chequamegon Nicolet National Forest.

Evidence documented violations of Wisconsin law which prohibits the shooting and hunting from or within 50 feet of the roadway's center of any public roadway shown on an official county highway map.

The hunter faces a potential penalty of \$217.90 for allegedly discharging a firearm from across a roadway in violation of state statute 167. He also faces a second civil forfeiture of \$222.90 if found guilty of hunting within 50 feet of the road center per administrative code NR 10. A wild animal surcharge for elk of \$2,000 also will be added to the total penalty as directed by the Wisconsin Judicial Conference if determined to be an illegal harvest.

WDNR Chief Warden Todd Schaller says the alleged actions of one individual do not represent other hunters or diminish the success of the elk program. "Many partners and individuals contributed to this great conservation story in Wisconsin, which allowed us to hold this first hunt," Schaller said. "The state is dedicated to ensuring hunting laws are honored to make sure it is a fair and safe hunt, and this case is a reflection of that."

Further law enforcement questions should be directed to **Regional Warden Dave Zebro**  
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